(iii) The work of 4-laning of Muzaffarnagar-Haridwar section could not be awarded as only single bid was received and the same was cancelled. For re-bidding of this section, updation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) as per new Model Concession Agreement (MCA) as decided by Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC) is in progress. The Haridwar-Dehradun section is passing through Rajaji National Park and clearance is to be obtained from the Central Empowered Committee constituted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. After clearance from Central Empowered Committee and PPPAC, bidding process is to be taken up for award for 4-laning work. It is too early to indicate the completion time of 4-laning work of Muzaffarnagar-Haridwar-Dehradun section at this stage. However, the same may not be completed by 2010 keeping in view the time taken in obtaining the clearance from Central Empowered Committee and PPPAC as well as response of bidders.

Progress of work on NHs

3354. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of highways projects, including upto six-laning of NHs, approved and implemented since 2000-01 showing the time taken by Government since receipt of proposal for length of construction, in granting of approval, commencing the work, commenced and completed the same in each case, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the details of proposals, both approved and new, pending as on March 31, 2006 and 2007 showing length and cost estimation of each, State-wise; and

(c) the details of projects received, fund allocations during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 indicating State's name, number of projects and lengths thereof and volume of funds allocated in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Unnecessary intersection on NH

3355. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of intersections allowed in a stretch of one kilometer of highway;

(b) whether six intersections have been made in a stretch of 3 kms. of National Highway No. 2 in front of village Baghai, Tehsil Tundla, District Firozabad of Uttar Pradesh;

(c) whether NHAI has received a representation from local MP and other residents in this regard so as to stop the intersections which are very dangerious leading to major road accidents and criminal activities;

(d) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(e) if not, by when the unnecessary intersection would be closed for the safety of commuters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Median openings are generally limited to

intersections with public streets or major generators of traffic and are not allowed for individual business needs. Where intersections are far apart, additional openings are provided at intervals of about 2 kms for U-turns and diversions of traffic to one of the carriageways at times of emergency or major repairs.

(b) In the stretch of 3 kms, due to constraints of nearby closely located habitations, six median openings have been provided based on representations from local public/village Pradhan. Out of these six median openings, only two are in front of village Baghai.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Representation has been received from the local Member of Parliament to close only two medium openings which are in front of village Baghai. The necessity of these existing median openings is being reviewed/re-assessed giving congnizance to road safety *vis-a-vis* requirement of local public. Further action will depend on the outcome of the review.

Pollution in four metro citizes

†3356. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vehicles in the four metros of the country Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai at present;

(b) the name of the most polluted city out of the four metros of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai;

(c) whether CNG is being used in the vehicles (bus, truck, car and tempo) of these regions; and

(d) the steps taken by State Government to check pollution in these metros?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Road traffic and work on NS and EW corridors

3357. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's road network handles about 70 per cent of the freight movement and 82 per cent of the passenger traffic whithin the country;

(b) whether the National Highways constitute only 2 per cent of the total road network but carry about 40 per cent of the total road traffic;

(c) whether the work has been slow on North-South (NS) and East-West (EW) corridors with only a quarter of the total targeted length having been completed; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHEAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) About 65% of freight and 86.7% of the passenger traffic is carried by the roads.

(b) Yes, Sir.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.